

New York Aug 17. 1836

Dear Wife

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I have delayed writing you longer than I intended. The bills came to hand safely. Frederick has found a situation here where he can ^{have} his board, fuel, room, light &c & \$300 per year. I think it quite likely he will accept it. — A few days since a colored man came to the office with a bundle for me, for which he ^{wanted} twenty five cents, & on opening it, I found ^{it} full of cotton thread &c &c. — have you lost such a bundle? Or did you lose a part of your baggage on your way home? — In regard to house keeping, I know not what to do — my impression on the whole is that I shall stay where we are — My poverty forbids any other arrangement, and I am resolved at all events to be out of debt. I have forwarded Thurston his money — paid my tailor at Boston \$50 — & shall send the \$50 to Providence in a day or two & all without borrowing. They pay me \$12 the Sabbath at the Tabernacle, which is quite a help to me — and between you & me I guess they would be glad to get me for their minister — this is not to be told of though, not even to mother — Now mind. The congregation has been steadily increasing ever since I began. I suppose afternoons & evenings we have not less, on an average ^{than} 12 or 1500.

My own debts are now all paid with the exception of about \$50 - though of course I am some two hundred dollars in advance on my salary. The first of October however if God spares my health I shall have paid all my debts & with no advance on my salary, leaving me the whole income \$625 of the succeeding six months of my editorial year, for the expenses of those months. With that & what I shall get for preaching occasionally I shall be able to do a little towards paying some of mother's debts - Whether I shall continue in the Editorship another year is uncertain. If some place should open to me where they would at once relieve me of all pecuniary embarrassments by loaning or giving me outright enough to pay off mother's debts, & it should in other respects be such a situation as I thought I ought to fill, I think now I should enter upon it, & yet I love the cause of the poor slave so, I don't know what I should do when put to the test. - Blagden of Boston you know is probably going to the Old South - When I first heard that he was going to leave ~~Boston~~ I wrote Drew, that if he went away, & they wanted me at Salem Street, I would come when my year was out. This was half serious & half not, & was put in, in a word, at the close of a letter I was writing him in relation to our affairs - If Blagden goes to the Old South I should not wonder if I heard from Salem Street, but I shall not think of that or any other position except on such conditions as will relieve me at once from debt.

I wish you would see Mr. Horace Cowles, & if his son is there, inform him that his letter was received & would have been answered long ago, but that Mr. Benedict was not.

able to say positively whether there would be an opening
in his office or not. When I last called on him he wished
me to wait ^{an} answer still longer, but I told him I thought
it would not do, & so he said, "Say no opening." I
suppose it is still in doubt whether his foreman leaves
or not. If Cowles were to come in town, with A. F. Williams,
I think it quite probable he would find some place such
as he would like.

Tell the dear boy Papa shall be glad to hear him spell braker
&c when he comes home, which will be early in September,
& perhaps sooner. Remember me affectionately to mother &
all. Tell Ralph I am glad to hear that ^{he is} ~~has~~ a good boy, &
I should be that I am glad to hear that she is a good girl.

Your affectionate husband

Amos A. Phelps.

C. A. Phelps
N. York Aug 17
1836

Single.



Q
Mrs. Charlotte Phelps

Farmington

Ct.